

of battle, determined to do their part towards winning, in November next, a decisive democratic victory. Let us, one and all, to the post of duty, and prepare for the contest before us. It will be a close one in this State, but it will be decided in favor of THE PEOPLE'S CAUSE, if we are true to the trusts reposed in us. We earnestly RE-SOLVE TO TRIUMPH, then WE SHALL TRIUMPH.

## Jealousy, Ingratitude and Treachery of Gen. Harrison.

The instance of cruel injustice committed by HARRISON in throwing the pall of his report over the name of Col. JOHN MILLER, who led, what HARRISON and his friends now call the most brilliant corps in our military annals, was noticed in a recent number of our paper. HARRISON, but a few days before, had quarrelled with Col. MILLER, and his yet unexpressed resentment was supposed by Col. MILLER and his friends to have induced the General to cast, in the first recital of the names of the gallant officers who performed the glorious achievement, that of the leader of the forlorn hope, to whose personal courage and skillful and judicious conduct of the action led entirely to his discretion, its success is attributable. But the case of deliberate perfidy, to which we would now invite attention, blighting the laurels won by a striping in his army, a temporary excitement can be even supposed to land the slightest mitigation. Cold selfishness, enduring for twenty-six years, characterized the yet unexpressed wrath. The injured officer was one who had volunteered before he reached manhood, to serve Harrison in his Tippecanoe campaign. On the bloody night of the surprise, he acted as the aid of Boyd, the Commander of the fourth regiment; and all know and admit that to the admirable skill and firmness with which this body of men were made like a rampart to cover the camp, and the broken militia, HARRISON and his army owe their deliverance from total destruction. The same young hero, whose voice and bearing, amidst the darkness and dismay of Tippecanoe, inspired with invincible courage the veterans to whom he bore the orders of their Colonel, was conspicuous again in that glorious day at Fort Meigs, which gave some light to the story which the butchery or captivity of the whole corps of Kentuckians under Colonel Dudley had clouded with disaster. Under Miller, he led a company of forty men to the assault of the batteries, which were carried. And there he left his whole command, but fourteen men, who alone survived to return with him to the fort. But his greatest service was that at Sandusky; and it was for this that the General requited him with that artfully practised wrong, which, from the noble nature of the injured party, and the insidious hypocrisy of his cunning adversary, has, up to this hour, been shrouded in mystery. It is our purpose now to dissipate the obscurity, by authentic and long suppressed documents.

It is proper to give a brief view of the state of things, out of which the secret history which we propose to open up, grew, that the partially known and the concealed facts may shed their light on each other.

The reader should look to the map, and take a comprehensive view (with a knowledge of the designs of both sides) of the scene of action of the whole campaign, which the victory obtained by Croghan at Sandusky so gloriously opened, and which the battle fought by Col. Johnson on the Thames as brilliantly closed.

Armstrong, the Secretary of War, had overruled Harrison's plan of carrying the invasion of Canada around the head of the lakes. His plan was to obtain command of the lake by a naval victory, and carry our army into Canada by transports built for the purpose. The fleet to contend for the mastery with the English, was prepared near Erie, under Perry. The transports were built by Jessup, at Cleveland, and Harrison, whose duty it was to cover, with his force, these preparations, took post at Seneca. The race between us now runs thus, Sandusky in the foreground, to Sandusky lay, Sandusky at the western end of the arch—Erie at the eastern extremity—Cleveland is a point on the arch between the two. The British force was on the opposite side of the lake from Sandusky bay. Harrison, with his army, was at a considerable distance from the bay, up the Sandusky river—Croghan at the post of Lower Sandusky, being about nine miles nearer the bay. The object of the British was to destroy the preparations for invasion on the Ohio shore, and open the whole sweep of its arch in line to the depositions of the Indians supported by the British fleet and sustained by the land forces as a rallying point in their incursions. To relieve himself from Harrison's force, which he did not doubt would be employed to reach Cleveland, Proctor made a feint of besieging Fort Meigs a second time. This, he supposed, would withdraw Harrison from Seneca westward, to succor Fort Meigs, and leave his designs upon the boats and stores at Cleveland, and the fleet at Erie, unobstructed. Harrison did not march to the relief of Fort Meigs. Proctor then came down the bay to Sandusky, in the prosecution of his real object. Harrison no sooner heard of his approach, than he ordered Croghan to burn his fort and retreat, and he had all his own provisions and preparations for the Canada campaign piled for a conflagration, and a retreat into the interior as soon as Croghan joined him. Proctor's march has been obtained, from the fears of Harrison, what his friends on Fort Meigs intended to effect, by provoking his valor, had not Croghan's courage disappointed Proctor and saved Harrison. Armstrong, then Secretary, thus sums up, in his notice of the war, the conduct of Harrison at this point of time:

"Having on the 20th, sufficiently armed himself with regard to the number and equipment of Proctor's force, and suspecting that this formidable army might be directed against his own entrenched camp at Seneca: he at once determined to collect and destroy his surplus stores, abandon his present position and make good a retreat to Upper Sandusky, leaving to the fate that night awaited them, the settlements on the southern shore of the Lake; the boats built and stores collected at Cleveland; and Perry's fleet, then fitting out and nearly ready for service at Presque Isle. But, being unwilling and prepared to make these sacrifices, he could not but perceive that a mere presumption of danger to his own camp, would not justify the abandonment of Croghan's detachment, without some effort on his part, to extend to it the eventual security he sought for himself. On this point, however, the General's sense of duty was soon satisfied; forgetting alike the admonition contained in his first order to Croghan, 'not to hazard a retreat in the face of an Indian invasion,' and the fact, now perfectly known to himself, that such an order, if issued, he dispatched to that officer a second order, for 'an immediate retreat' at all hazards, indicating the route by which he was to make it, but trusting no step to 'retreat,' or otherwise sustain the march. And, as if the task thus imposed was not in itself sufficiently perilous, he further prescribed, that the garrison, instead of employing all possible means to 'hold the operation, should begin 'by setting fire to their stores and baggage,' and thus virtually announce their intention to the surrounding enemy."

Fortunately, the great disposer of the events of this world, not infrequently converts evil into good, and fully into wisdom. On the present occasion, we have seen, that by the first order given to Croghan, he was assigned to the defence of a post, which, in the General's opinion, 'could not be held,' and at the same time, forbidden to retreat in the face of an Indian invasion; and that by a second, he was ordered to abandon this untenable post, and make good a retreat of nine miles, through a continuous forest filled with savages, without aid or support of any kind."

The circumstances connected with Croghan's refusal to obey the order to burn and retreat, are told for the first time truly in his letter, which we now publish. The result is forcibly told by the Secretary, Armstrong, in the following passage:

"In making this selection, the young and gallant Croghan did not hesitate; and to the demand of a

surrender, enforced by the usual menace of Indian slaughter in case of refusal, he answered substantially, that the defence of his post was a point of honor, which could only be satisfied by an actual experiment of the relative force and fortune of his antagonist and himself."

"While this negotiation was in progress, Proctor was employed in landing his artillery and giving it a position in aid of his gun-boats; from which on the delivery of Croghan's answer, a heavy fire was opened and continued on the fort, with little if any intermission during the night. At daybreak, a second battery of three six pounders was established within two hundred and fifty yards of the picket; and about four o'clock, P.M. it was found that the whole fire of the British cannon, was concentrated on the northwest corner of the fort—a circumstance, sufficiently indicating the point and species of attack meditated upon it. Major Croghan, accordingly, listened to employ such means as he possessed to strengthen the menaced angle, and had barely executed his purpose, when the enemy, (covering himself with smoke) was seen rapidly advancing, and but a few paces distant from the pickets. A general and well directed fire of musketry from the garrison, which immediately followed this discovery, had the effect of checking his progress and considerably disturbing his order; but the latter being speedily restored, the movement was resumed, and the ditch reached and occupied by the head of the column. It was at this critical moment, that Croghan's single piece of artillery, charged with grape-shot, and so placed as to enfilade the assailants, opened its fire, and with such effect, that in a few minutes, the combat was virtually ended and the battle won. Most of the enemy who had entered the ditch, were killed or wounded; and such of them as were less advanced and able to fly, sought safety in the neighboring woods—carrying with them no disposition to renew the attack, and strongly impressing their Indian allies with their own panic. Proctor now saw, that all attempts to rally the fugitives were hopeless, and that to avoid a greater calamity, his most prudent course would be, to re-embark what could be collected of his force, red and white, and return immediately to Malden."

We now come to the *unpublished* history connected with this event. It will explain why the results of this victory were carefully kept out of view at the time—why CROGHAN consented to have his motives for disobeying his orders misrepresented, and HARRISON's conduct in giving them vindicated—and why HARRISON's so perseveringly falsified the truth of history in the accounts given by him of this particular transaction, in the two works prepared under his own eye; the first published by McAlfee the second by Dawson.

In bringing forward Col. Croghan's letters upon this subject, it is proper to state that they were given to us by a gentleman of high standing in Ohio who without any communication with Col. Croghan upon the subject, submitted them to us for the press. The facts that these letters were called for by a committee of gentlemen at H. hearing the friends of HARRISON—that Col. Croghan expressed his willingness to give them to the public by referring the committee to Gen. Harrison for the correspondence—that this committee, after having had time to communicate with Gen. Harrison, published a letter as Croghan's which is the late correspondence between Harrison and Croghan shows was not his, but one which his self-serving patriotism overruled Harrison to shape to the exigencies of the time at which it was published—that Harrison's *Col. To To To*, now conducting a press notorious 'set up as the immediate organ of Harrison, declared in reference to the call by the committee for the correspondence in regard to the contested question of the defence of Fort Stephenson, that was no "such contested question"—"that history, as Col. Croghan's own letter at the day, here placed the subject beyond the necessity of further elucidation"—all the facts, connected with the consideration that if what is said in behalf of Harrison in regard to the call of his own friends for the correspondence, be true, the correspondence between Harrison and Croghan, in the hands of the parties and to the public, that the issue made by Col. Todd's declaration should be tested. We do not publish what purports to be the replies of Harrison, in the copies which we have in our hands, because the history referred to by Col. Todd is true, is contained in the letters purporting to be Harrison's as erroneous. Harrison must therefore do the authenticity of these letters, or the authority of his friend, Col. Todd, to make the statement on his behalf.

We shall await, then, some intimation on the part of Gen. Harrison, or his friends, touching this subject—some recognition of the letters in print to him, coupled with an expression of a willingness that they may meet the "public eye." In that contingency we shall with shrewdly present them in the columns of the Globe, in their proper connection. From the contents of Col. Croghan's letters, it will be perceived that not a fact stated by him is controverted. It was alone upon the admission of the truth of his statements that the need of correcting the original misrepresentation was referred to the decision of mutual friends.

## COL. CROGHAN'S LETTERS TO GENERAL HARRISON.

RED HOOK, July 1st, 1818.

SIR: Could I calculate on seeing you within any reasonable time, this letter would not be written; but as there is no prospect of this I deem it therefore, most proper in this way to state to you with candor, that reports, or rather statements, have been made to me of such a nature, and from source so direct and apparently so authentic, as to cause me to hesitate in the language I should bear towards you; and which will, unless positively denied by you, call from me such contradiction as would be extremely unpleasant to me, and perhaps, mortifying to you.

It is stated that you revised and corrected the work entitled "War in the West," (of which McAlfee is the ostensible author,) preparatory to its going to press, thus giving your sanction and authority to the publication of a statement in relation to the defence of Lower Sandusky, most positively incorrect, and which you at the time knew to be in direct contradiction of the language which you held in the Camp of Seneca during the bombardment of Sandusky by the enemy. "General Harrison," says the author, "discovering from the fire of the picket, that he had nothing but light artillery, which could make no impression on the works, felt an apprehension for the safety of the garrison, well knowing that a breach could not be effected, and that without forming a breach, every attempt at escalade could be successfully repelled by the garrison," or words to this amount—a statement as void of truth as possible, as you very well know recollecting as you must your meanness, during the whole continuance of the cannonade, for the safety of the garrison, and which more than once wrong from you this strong language of censure of my conduct: "I wish my hands of it—the blood be on his own head"—"language which you had no right to use, and which would have damaged my reputation as an officer had I fallen on that occasion."

I am informed that very lately, at a dinner in Philadelphia, when the subject of the defence of Sandusky was brought up you expressed yourself in substance thus: The officers and soldiers of that garrison are not so deserving of distinction for its defence as it is generally thought to the blindness and folly of the enemy, more than to any exertions or skill of theirs, is to be ascribed his defeat and their safety; it is true they did very well, but not better than any other like number of troops from my army would have done, &c. thus continuing on in such an exposition of the affair as made me say my informant and others at the table, express an astonishment that the merits of the defence of the Sandusky had been so far overrated.

A few that Harrison would quit his camp at Seneca, and send upon him his two commanders, always the terror of each other, one, was now arrested. A few that Harrison would quit his camp at Seneca, and send upon him his two commanders, always the terror of each other, one, was now arrested. A few that Harrison would quit his camp at Seneca, and send upon him his two commanders, always the terror of each other, one, was now arrested.

and that the commanding officer had received for such service such approval. I do such conversation ever take place; or have you ever expressed yourself in such manner of the defence of Sandusky as to induce the belief in any one that its garrison received warmer plaudits than it was deserving of? And in asking this may I at the same time require of you an equally candid denial or admission of the statement of your having revised the work of which McAlfee is the ostensible author? If it is made to appear from your answer that my informants have reported falsely, they shall know it in their confusion and rest; but on the other hand there is an admission on your part of the truth of their statement, I will immediately take it upon myself to correct the false impression you may have created. I will be in New York until the 1st of October next, to which place I beg that your answer may be directed.

I have the honor to be, your humble servant,  
G. CROGHAN.

To Gen. W. H. HARRISON,  
Cincinnati, Ohio.

NEW YORK, Aug. 13, 1818.

DEAR SIR: The language of my letter, although warm, was but the expression of my feelings at the time; for I had then scarce a doubt of your hostility towards me, by such an extraordinary chain of coincident circumstances were the reports in proof thereof brought before me. With every desire to address you as from the long friendship that has existed between us you had a right to expect, I was unable to express myself as I wished, for at each attempt at more dispassionate manner, I became yet more warm at the idea of having so mistaken your character. Nor will you be surprised at this, when informed of the manner in which it was produced. In the first place, I was never satisfied with your report of the affair of Sandusky. You engaged individual gallantry alone, without an attempt at placing the facts before the Government in the important light they merited—thus doing an injury to myself and to others concerned; however, this neglect I found an excuse for at the time: the exasperated state of public feeling, unjustly directed against you, rendering it more proper, for a time at least, such facts should be withheld as would tend further to increase the reputation of the affair. Secondly, When I heard, for more than two years, officers declare that you were intemperate, (at the same time giving instances in proof,) a book appeared in Kentucky, highly corroborative of these declarations, for in this book (on which I said you had passed your approbation whilst yet in manuscript) a statement is given of the affair at Sandusky, calculated most completely to lessen its reputation in the opinion of the public. Lastly, When in a degree exasperated at the false coloring given to the affair of Sandusky in the book above referred to, while revolving in my mind a conjecture of the real state of your feelings towards me, I accidentally met with a stranger who recited to me a conversation he had recently held with you, that places the fact of your hostility beyond a question. The conversation here alluded to was expressed at length in my last letter, and to it I might have added another fact which had its place in the chain of connection that I presented to this stranger—McAlfee's History; and I may say, vouch for its correctness, it was given to him after he had avowed his intention of writing an account of the war. I might here relate many other facts of like import to this chain of singular coincidences; but I deem it would be better to leave these to the hands of the public. I may offer these particulars in excuse for the tone and language of my letter; but they do not excuse me the less for regret having betrayed such warmth. You had a right to expect other treatment; and I do not hesitate to say that I have wronged your friendship.

Your letter bears with it all the satisfaction that you could give, or that I can ask. You have desired, in explicit terms, the truth of the statements that have been made to me, and of course stand required of every citizen, of every friend, of every man, to seek an occasion to speak in praise of my services. I since find my mistake, and that your neglect of me has gone so far as to cause you to pass from under your eyes a work containing an incorrect account of an affair on which my reputation as a soldier greatly depended, when it was fully in your power to have given it the necessary corrections. Feeling as I do that I have striven a great deal in your behalf, and aware that you were conscious of my having at one time rendered you a very signal service, I am surprised, perhaps mortified, that you should have neglected the very favorable opportunity that was offered to you of acknowledging the obligation, by generously publishing in relation to the defence of Sandusky, such a statement of every citizen, of every friend, of every man, to seek an occasion to speak in praise of my services. I since find my mistake, and that your neglect of me has gone so far as to cause you to pass from under your eyes a work containing an incorrect account of an affair on which my reputation as a soldier greatly depended, when it was fully in your power to have given it the necessary corrections.

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I am, very respectfully,  
G. CROGHAN.

Gen. HARRISON, Cincinnati.

NEW-ORLEANS, May 24, 1825.

SIR: I unwillingly renew our correspondence, which I had thought finally closed with my letter of the 13th. August, 1818, and that I do so will be received by you as an evidence that I am feeling towards you are at least not hostile. You will call to mind the particulars of our recent conversation at Washington City, and cannot therefore be surprised at my entering, without circumspection, upon the subject which then occupied us. Strict justice has never been done to the brave men who served with me at Lower Sandusky, and I require it for them at your hands. It would be needful for me to point out in what particulars they have suffered; to you, at least, it should be enough to have referred to McAlfee's History of the War in the West, and your own biography, recently published in Cincinnati. What is said in either of these books, calculated to place the transactions at Lower Sandusky in higher point of view before the world than is claimed for the most insignificant of every other day? Your answer must be that of every other reader—nothing. I ask no more for myself, General Harrison, than I have a right to claim for every soldier who served under me. Put right I ask for more at your hands? If you have one spark of grateful recollection, you will answer, yes—more, more. I did not, I am sure, sacrifice myself to save you. I did not, I am sure, sacrifice myself to save you. I did not, I am sure, sacrifice myself to save you.

I am, very respectfully,  
G. CROGHAN.

Cincinnati, Ohio.

NEW-ORLEANS, 8th Aug. 1825.

DEAR SIR: You will allow me to express surprise that no answer has been returned to my letter of the 24th May last; not even an acknowledgment of its receipt. That I wrote you was at your request, I had therefore every reason to flatter myself with a belief that I should hear from you without loss of time. I am fully decided upon having all the facts in relation to the transactions at Lower Sandusky placed before the world; and will, therefore, unless something satisfactory be shortly obtained from you, publish the letters which have passed between us, that it may be at once seen of what I complain, and with how much cause.

your very camp at Seneca, do every thing that you and your friends required of me as necessary to reinstate you in the good opinion of the people and of the army? The chief, should have the confidence of all; and to insure that, I signed addresses without reading them, because I was told that it was necessary; wrote letters approving throughout your conduct, and subject to your corrections, without asking what they might be, because I was assured by members of your family that you yourself believed that on my expressions in relation to you much depended. But of what I did for you, enough of what you have done for me, there is nothing to be told. You have personally pledged yourself to correct any false impressions that may have been created by the publication of the two works above mentioned; in a word, to speak of all things in relation to the transactions at Sandusky as they deserve.

We are told in McAlfee's History, "General Harrison, discovering from the fire of the enemy that he had nothing but light artillery, which could make no impression upon the work, felt not a moment alarmed for the safety of the garrison, well knowing that a breach could not be effected, and that without effecting a breach every attempt at escalade could be successfully repelled." General Harrison, is this the fact? Did you not, during the whole of the bombardment of thirty-six hours, evince more emotion than could have been induced by a belief that the garrison was not endangered? Did you not, in the extremity of your apprehensions, more than once cry out, "The blood be on his own head—I wish my hands of it!" And was there one man of your camp at Seneca (the gallant Wood excepted) who believed that without the most desperate resistance, the garrison could prevail against the attacks of the enemy? Answer these queries and fairly. I demand it of you as a right. If the statement in McAlfee's book be correct then where is the merit of the defence of Sandusky? State candidly the facts without eulogium on any of us; for each one who served there would be judged by his works. Tell to the world that, when you fell back on Seneca, leaving as a garrison for Sandusky, but 150 men, the works of the place were measurably defenceless—that the pickets which connected the block houses were so loosely planted, that the efforts of a single man could pull many of them up—that there was no ditch about the work, nor any outward defence to oppose an assaulting force—that but few entrenching tools were left behind, and those unwillingly; and to all this, that there was spared to us scarce 40 rounds of musket cartridges per man, without a single prepared cartridge or one ounce of powder for the only piece of artillery in the place. Then state the appearance of the defenses, on your coming down immediately after the defeat and flight of the enemy. The brave men who toiled there during ten days and nights to put themselves in a posture of defence, are as much entitled to credit for it as they are deserving of praise for their gallantry after the coming of the enemy.

Having a charge on these points as far as may be due to the truth, I would then have you speak of every circumstance in relation to the affair of Sandusky (both anterior and subsequent) calculated to place it in its proper light. I have been told it already occupies its proper place—that every thing in relation to it is well understood and duly appreciated. Can you join in any expression of this kind? Surely you cannot; for you know too well what was done on that frontier, and how much immediately around Sandusky, that has never come to light. If my services have been duly appreciated, then truly have I been resting too contentedly upon what I have done; for to public expression, conveying an assurance of the grateful sense in which my services are held, has ever yet reached me. You may say that I received a sword from the ladies of Chillicothe, and that I was also brevetted by the President; for the first I feel as a soldier ought to feel for a gift which he should prize as his life; as for the latter, I regard it as a thing of no value, and not to be considered, for brevets had been dealt out by the dozen, and officers were as numerous as the leaves of the forest. We are told that you were rejected as unworthy an expression of its approbation. When I was thus so flatteringly passed upon, was Congress, in your opinion, informed of all that I had done in the Northwest? You will say that it was not. And when at a very recent period, too I was compelled by my necessities to ask a place, and an unimpaired one, and found it difficult and vexatious when I had expected every thing the reverse, had I not a right to believe that my claims to preference were considered but of the same rank with those of every other applicant for office? The world knows that there was a repulse of the enemy at Lower Sandusky, but what further does it know calculated to enhance it above the most trivial affair of the war? Does it know that I disobeyed your orders to abandon the place, and that this disobedience saved your army from a precipitate retreat, and perhaps the whole frontier from the incursions of a savage foe? A council of your general and field officers decided upon the propriety of falling back upon Upper Sandusky; every arrangement was made for a precipitate retreat, and the signal of departure was to be given at the moment of my joining. I care not. Your order was disobeyed, and you were thus saved from the necessity of a retrograde step. The consequences of the repulse of the enemy at Lower Sandusky were, as you have long known, more important than can be conceived by any one unacquainted with the topography of the section of our country under the position of the opposing forces. How you would have fared had I been captured, you can best conjecture; at all events, it did appear that, at the time, you believed the enemy more than a match for you. And what would have been the consequences of your defeat. A smoking frontier of more than five hundred miles in extent. What saved the boats and the immense stores concentrated at Cleveland under the direction of Major, now General Jessup? What also prevented a combined attack of land and naval forces upon the fleet of Commodore Perry at Erie, at a time when its destruction must have been certain? My disobedience of your orders—my subsequent defeat and repulse of the enemy at Sandusky, Gen. Proctor, on leaving Detroit in July, 1813, had no other object in view than the destruction of the fleet of Commodore Perry at Erie. The fleet of Commodore Perry at Erie was the only fleet of stores and boats at Cleveland. He blocked Fort Meigs merely as a cover to his real intentions, and to afford him an opportunity of ascertaining what reinforcements were marching out, that he might be assured of the safety of Detroit during his absence. Satisfied of this, he left Fort Meigs with the force of at least 3,000 men (Indians included) in furtherance of the grand objects of the expedition. On reaching the point of crossing, at the entrance of Sandusky bar, his Indian force refused to go further on the lake without first taking the scalp and plunder at Fort Sandusky. General Proctor, from his own written statement, (now in your hands,) unwillingly admitted them. An attack was made—it failed—and with heavy loss. The Indians deserted to a man, and there an expedition, originally well planned, and fraught with deadly consequences to our cause, was completely defeated by a force of 150 men, of whom nothing was expected, and for whom nothing further in praise has been offered than was extracted from McAlfee's History of the War in the West.

Respectfully,  
G. CROGHAN.

Cincinnati, Ohio.

NEW-ORLEANS, 8th Aug. 1825.

DEAR SIR: You will allow me to express surprise that no answer has been returned to my letter of the 24th May last; not even an acknowledgment of its receipt. That I wrote you was at your request, I had therefore every reason to flatter myself with a belief that I should hear from you without loss of time. I am fully decided upon having all the facts in relation to the transactions at Lower Sandusky placed before the world; and will, therefore, unless something satisfactory be shortly obtained from you, publish the letters which have passed between us, that it may be at once seen of what I complain, and with how much cause.

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